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INFORMATION: Lifteraft Requirements for Transport Category Airplanes

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This is in response to your memo of February 4, 1985, and the attached Gulfstream letter of January 14, 1985, concerning liferaft requirements for transport category airplanes.

We have completed our review of the pertinent regulations and Gulfstream correspondence. In this case, we consider that, regardless of the operating rules, the certification rules should govern. That is, as stipulated in TSO C70/70a, the Type II liferaft should not be used on transport category airplanes.

We consider that the approval mentioned in the Gulfstream letter for the use of TSO-C70a Type II liferafts in transport category (Gulfstream) airplanes, where operated under Part 91 rules, was in error. Accordingly, future production airplanes should be brought into compliance as of a reasonable date. Also, existing operators should be advised and offered a retrofit.